

***TOWN OF NEWFIELDS BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 6, 2008***

***Present:*** Selectmen: Rosanne C. Gilbert, Michael Woodworth, and Wes Moore who joined the meeting in progress; Sue McKinnon; Jamie Thompson; Police Chief Reed and Lt. Gould; Allen Taylor; and Nancy Spencer.

***Call to order:*** The meeting was called to order at 6:27pm by Rosanne C. Gilbert.

Allen Taylor asked why the sidewalks over the railroad bridge are not plowed like the rest of the sidewalks on Main Street. He has been shoveling snow off of the sidewalks for a number of years, but is ready to stop. Allen said that a lot of residents walk the loop from Railroad Avenue to Main Street to Swamscott Street and the bridge sidewalk should be clear of snow. Nancy was asked to check with the Road Agent and report back to Mr. Taylor.

The meeting went into a non-public session at 6:53pm per RSA 91-A:3, II. The meeting re-opened to the public at 7:40pm.

The budget for 2009 was discussed. Wes asked Chief Reed the monetary savings to the Town if one full-time police officer were to be eliminated. Chief Reed said the savings would be \$39,000. a year and that eliminating one officer would cause a great deal of hardship to his department.

Wes made a motion to reduce the Police Department by 1 full-time officer, reducing coverage by 40 hours per week with a savings of \$40,000. The motion failed with no second.

Michael Woodworth made a motion for a Warrant Article providing 1 part-time police officer to cover the Town from 3am to 7am 7 days per week at a cost of \$19,959.99. The motion was seconded by Rosanne. The motion passed with two in favor and one against.

Increasing a part-time worker's hours and benefits were discussed. Michael and Rosanne do not feel increasing a part-time worker's hours and paying extra benefits are needed at this time. Wes indicated that the employee is a town resident and is an asset to the Town.

Wes relayed that the Fire Department was asked to reduce their budget. Jamie asked if the fire rating of the Town would be affected if the Fire Department Budget were cut. Wes indicated that the fire rating would not be affected. The Fire Department was asked

to reduce the amount on their Warrant Article by \$50,000. The Department did not agree to do so.

Chief Reed advised that the cost of the ice storm in December was \$1,550.04. Should the Town receive any funds from FEMA for reimbursement of the ice storm costs, \$459.00 will go back into the Emergency Management Expendable Trust Fund. The Emergency Management budget breakdown for 2008 was reviewed.

A discussion of the Highway Department budget took place. The department was asked to reduce their budget for 2009. The next road scheduled to be paved is Old Lee Road. There is a potential subdivision being built on Old Lee Road so the paving should not be done until after all of the houses have been built. Jamie said that another road could be paved instead.

Wes made a motion to reduce the Highway Budget by \$80,000. There was no second so the motion did not pass.

Wes made a motion to reduce the Library Budget by \$2,500. There was no second so the motion did not pass.

Sue was asked why the Land Use Change Tax was estimated at \$40,000. for 2009. The Selectmen feel that \$18,000. is more reasonable. As the Garvey project is going forward the Town should expect to receive at least \$60,000. in Land Use Change Taxes.

Checks were signed.

The renewal contract with the NHSPCA was signed.

The renewal 5% Multi-Year Discount Program Agreement with Primex was signed.

Scholarship information from the Local Government Center was reviewed.

Correspondence from P2 Environmental System Services was reviewed.

The Notice Of Arsenic Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) Violation from the Newfields Village Water and Sewer Department was read and will be posted on the Town Office Bulletin Board.

The Selectmen agreed to attend the Newfields Elementary School Deliberative Session on Tuesday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>. No Selectmen's meeting will be held that night.

Rosanne made a motion to accept the minutes of the December 30, 2008 meeting. Michael seconded the motion and the motion passed with all in favor.

The meeting went into a non-public session per RSA 91-A:3 III at 10:52pm. The meeting adjourned at 11:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy J. Spencer  
Administrative Assistant